

# **SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET**

## **Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services**

*This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the First Middlesex and Norfolk Senatorial District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2002.*

### **Residents of First Middlesex and Norfolk Senatorial District**

#### **Characteristics of Admissions**

In FY 2002, there were 124,539 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; 0.5% (603) of these admissions reside in the First Middlesex and Norfolk Senatorial District. 2.3% (14) of admissions from the First Middlesex and Norfolk Senatorial District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2002, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from First Middlesex and Norfolk Senatorial District reported the following characteristics:

- 69% male and 31% were female.
- 57% were between the ages of 30-49.
- 82% were white non-Latino, 9% were black non-Latino, 5% were Latino, and 4% were other racial categories.
- 61% were never married, 17% were married, and 22% reported not to be married now.
- 15% had less than high school education, 47% completed high school, and 38% had more than high school education.
- 36% were employed.
- 12% were homeless.
- 35% had prior mental health treatment.

#### **Primary Substance of Use**

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the First Middlesex and Norfolk Senatorial District.

<b>Table 1</b>					
<b>Primary Drug by District and State FY 2002</b>					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
<b>District</b>	59%	25%	6%	3%	3%
<b>State</b>	45%	37%	6%	4%	3%

#### **Substances Used in Past Year**

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, including the prevalence of injection drug users (IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Annual Admissions by Substance Used: FY 1995 – FY 2002</b>							
<b>First Middlesex and Norfolk Senatorial District</b>							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
<b>FY '95</b>	623	504	199	199	102	170	130
<b>FY '96</b>	642	520	198	186	85	178	136
<b>FY '97</b>	660	556	217	173	74	131	99
<b>FY '98</b>	628	523	182	155	73	133	110
<b>FY '99</b>	606	491	158	134	64	164	125
<b>FY '00</b>	609	494	159	114	65	164	122
<b>FY '01</b>	542	430	150	107	61	136	94
<b>FY '02</b>	603	475	150	128	60	173	126

### Heroin and Injection Drug Use

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the First Middlesex and Norfolk Senatorial District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

